## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applicant:

Chien Chiang et al.

Art Unit:

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For:

Method to Enhance Performance

of Thermal Resistor Device

Atty Docket: ITO.0536D1US

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Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-referenced application.

## In the Specification

Please insert at the first line -- This is a divisional of prior Application No. 09/944,349, filed August 29, 2001, which is a continuation of prior Application No. 09/676,317, filed September 29, 2000, which issued on January 15, 2002 as U.S. Patent No. 6,339,544--.

## In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-22 and add new claims 23-25 before calculating the filing fee.

A method comprising: 23 (New).

forming a dielectric material, a portion of which comprises a thermal conductivity less than silicon dioxide, between programmable material and a contact formed on a substrate, the dielectric material having an opening for the programmable material to couple to the contact.

The method of claim 23, wherein forming the dielectric material 24 (New). comprises forming the portion which comprises the thermal conductivity less than silicon dioxide adjacent the programmable material.